## **REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

MEETING

DATE:

5/5/03

AGENDA SECTION: CONSENT AGENDA	ORIGINATING DEPT: Public Works	ITEM NO.
ITEM DESCRIPTION: STORM WATER PERMIT APPLICATION		PREPARED BY:
X NOTE: Additional materials sent to Council se	parately	B. Huberty

The City of Rochester is mandated by federal law to apply for authorization to discharge storm water associated with municipal separate storm sewer systems to waters of the state. In compliance with the provisions of the Clean Water Act, this authorization is granted under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit program, which is administered by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA). The permit application consists of two parts: a completed application form and a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program (SWPPP). The SWPPP outlines the Best Management Practices (BMPs) measurable goals, and timelines that the City has selected for implementation over the course of the next five years to address the six Minimum Control Measures outlined in the Permit. A brief description of the six Minimum Control Measures follows:

- 1. **Public education and outreach** -distributing educational materials and performing outreach to inform citizens about the impacts polluted storm water runoff can have on water quality.
- 2. **Public participation -** providing opportunities for citizens to participate in program development and implementation, such as encouraging participation in public hearings, in advisory groups, or in water quality protection activities.
- 3. **Illicit discharge detection and elimination -** developing and implementing a plan to detect and eliminate illicit discharges to the storm sewer system; this includes developing a system map and informing the community about hazards associated with illegal discharges and improper disposa of waste.
- 4. **Construction site storm water runoff control -** developing, implementing, and enforcing an erosion and sediment control program for construction activities that disturb one or more acres o land.
- 5. Post-construction storm water management in new development and redevelopment developing, implementing, and enforcing a program to address discharges of storm water runoff from new development and redevelopment areas once construction is completed. Applicable controls could include preventative actions such as protecting sensitive areas, like wetlands, or the use of structural best management practices, such as storm water ponds.
- 6. **Pollution prevention/good housekeeping for municipal operations -** developing and implementing a program to prevent or reduce pollutant runoff from municipal operations. This program must include municipal staff training on pollution prevention measures and techniques.

To develop Rochester's SWPPP, Rochester completed a self-assessment process using guidance documents prepared by the League of Minnesota Cities and the MPCA. Additionally, input was solicited from all City Departments to identify existing storm water management activities. The extent of the constructed and natural components of the City's storm water management system was also identified. Budget and staffing limitations were also assessed in this process. This City-specific baseline information is the foundation by which the City then defines "Maximum Extent Practicable" under the permit. From this, selection of an appropriate scope and sequence of BMPS and measurable goals occurs to prepare the SWPPP along with a reasonable timeline for implementation.

## **COUNCIL ACTION REQUESTED:**

Duly authorize the Public Works Director to sign the completed permit application on behalf of the City o Rochester and to submit the application and SWPPP to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency no late than May 9, 2003. As the authorized representative, the Public Works Director will have overall, site, and administrative responsibility to implement the SWPPP.

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COUNCIL ACTION: Motion by:	Second by:	to: